

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: PINT PK

SUBJECT: SIND -- FIVE MEMBERS OF NEW PROVINCIAL CABINET SWORN-IN

REF: A. KARACHI 2613 B. KARACHI 0049 (NOHL)

SUMMARY: ALMOST ONE MONTH AFTER DESIGNATION OF NEW SIND CHIEF MINISTER GHULAM MUSTAFA JATOI (REFTEL A) TWO MEMBERS PREVIOUS PROVINCIAL CABINET AND THREE NEW FIGURES WERE SWORN IN AS PROVINCIAL MINISTER WITHOUT PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEIR SELECTION JANUARY 12. CARRIED OVER WERE ABDUL WAHID KATPAR, PPP FROM LARKANA AND JAM SADIQ ALI, ELECTED AS INDEPENDENT FROM SANGHER, WHO OPTED LATER FOR PPP. THREE NEW MINISTERS ARE PYAR ALI ALLANA APLM FROM KARACHI, BASHIR UYMAD SHAH, INDEPENDENT TURNED PPP FROM THATHZ AND MIR HAZAR KHAN BIJARANI PPP FROM JACOBABAD. KATPAR AND BIJARANI, NOT PRESENTLY MPA'S, WILL BSACCOMMODATED BY RESIGNATIONS OF PRESENT MPA'S FROM THEIR DISTRICTS CLEARING THE WAY FOR NEW MINISTERS TO STAND IN BYE-ELECTIONS. DESIGNATION AT THIS TIME OF SIXTH MINISTER SYED QAIM ALI SYIH, PPP MNA AND PRESIDENT OF SIND PPP, NOT FORTHCOMING REPORTEDLY BECAUSE

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ARRANGEMENTS

FOR MPA SEAT TO BE VACATED FOR HIM NOT
PUMPLETED. CHIEF MINISTER HAS INDICATED THAT OVER TIME
ADDITIONAL MINISTERS WILL BE NAMED, BRINGING STRENGTH
OF CABINET TO 10. END SUMMARY

1. FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE ROUNDS OF CONSULTATIONS, WHICH
TOOK LONGER THAN GENERALLY EXPECTED (REFTEL B), FIVE SIND
PROVINCIAL MINISTERS WERE SWORN-IN MID-DAY JANUARY
12 IN KARACHI. RETURN OF KATPAR AND JAM SADIQ ALI TO
CWAINET GENERALLY EXPECTED, BUT THREE NEW FACES, ALTHOUGH
MENTIONED IN LOCAL SPECULATION, WERE NOT NECESSARILY
STRONG CONTENDERS. ALLANA, WHO CONTESTED 1970 PROVIN-
CIAL ELECTIONS AS ALL PAKISTAN MUSLIM LEAGUE (QAYYUM)
CANDIDATE, WAS ONLY RECENTLY SEATED IN PROVINCIAL ASSEM-
BLY WHEN HIS ELECTION PETITION ALLEDGING UNFAIR PRACTICES
BY SUCCESSFUL PPP CANDIDATE SYED SAEED HASAN UPHELD
BY ELEIION COMMISSION. BIJARANI FROM JACOBABAD IS
NOT AN MPA, BUT HIS FATHER WHO WON THE SEAT AS INDEPENDENT
IN 1970 ELECTION HAS RESIGNED, CLEARING WAY FOR HIS
SON'S ELECTION AS WAS DONE IN CASE OF CHIEF MINISTER
(REFTEL B). BOTH ALLANA (EAYXY FORTIES) AND BIJARANI (27)
BRING TO NEW CABINET MORE OF AN ELEMENT OF YOUNG BLOOD
THAN IN PREVIOUS CABINET IN WHICH FINANCE MINISTER AZFAR
(36) WAS YOUNGEST MEMBER. THREE NEW MINISTERS LARGELY
UNTESTED QUALITIES WHOSE PERFORMANCE AND APPEAL CAN ONLY
BE JUDGED AFTER SOME TIME. KATPAR AND JAM SADIQ ALI
PROVEN PPP LOYALISTS AND IN PREVIOUS MINISTERIAL ROLES
AS MINISTER OF HEALTH AND HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPECTIVELY PLAYED ACTIVE ROLES AT
THE TIME OF SUMMER FLOODS.

2. SUNDAY EVENING CHIEF MINISTER ANNOUNCED ALLOCATION
OF PORTFOLIOS AND ORDER OF SENIORITY IN CABINET AS FOLLOWS:
KATPAR--HEALTH, POPULATION PLANNING, LAW AND PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS; JAM SADIQ ALI--HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT; ALLANA--EDUCATION, AUQAF AND CULTURAL

AFFAIRS; BAHIR AHMABQSHAH--FOOD AND COOPERATION; BIJAR-
SONI--COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.
CHIEF MINISTER RETAIMOMSERVICES, GENERAL ADMINISTRATION,
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HOME AND FINANCE. LOST IN THE SHUFFLE HAS BEEN PROVIN-
CIAL PORTFOLIO OF LABOR PREVIOUSLY HELD BY PPP MNA
GABOLE.

3. COMMENT: FOUR MORE MINISTERS EXPECTED TO BE
TAKEN, TWO OF WHICH WILL COME FROM KARACHI, ONE OF WHICH
SHOULD BE URDU-SPEAKER TO REPLACE FINANCE MINISTER KAMAL
AZFAR. APPOINTMENTS THUS FAR PROVIDE NO CLEAR INDICATION

THAT NEW CHIEF MINISTER HAS EFFECTED RECONCILIATION WITH
PIR OF PAGARO OR THE UNHAPPY TALPURS, KHOSOS AND SOOMROS.
HOWEVER, THERE STILL ROOM FOR MANEUVER AND SUBSEQUENT
MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS MAY BE DOLSW OUT TO THOSE WHO
STOOD APART FROM PREVIOUS MINISTRY. DROPPING OF INDUSTRIES
MINISTER HAJI KASSIM ABBAS PATEL, WHO WAS HOOTED DOWN
WHEN HE ATTEMPTED ADDRESS RECENT SIND PPP CONVENTIONJV
WELCOMED BY MANY BECAUSEIHF ALLEGATIONS OF EXCESSIVE
CORRUPTION. WHEN MORE MINISTERS ADDED IT LIKELY THAT
THERE MAY BE FURTHER SHIFTING OF PORTFOLIOS. AS WITH PRE-
VIOUS CABINET EFFECTIVENESS OF NEW CABINET LIKELY DEPEND
LARGELY ON CHIEF MINISTER WHOSE DELAYED SELECTION OF
MINISTERS SUGGESTS THAT HE NOT PARTICULARLY FORCEFUL IN

COMBATING LOCAL RIVALRIES, OR ABLE TO INDEPENDENTLY SHAPE
PACKAGE WHICH APPEALED TO PRIME MINISTER WHO, ALONG
WITH GOP MINISTER OF EDUCATION PYZADA, PLAYED ACTIVE
ROLE IN DESIGNATION NEW CABINET MEMBERS.
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